

# ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS



Newsletter of the N.H. Department of Environmental Services

November/December 2004

## Governor's Message

The widening of I-93 is a massive undertaking, which presents a multitude of environmental challenges. One in particular that was unanticipated at the beginning was the discovery of elevated chloride levels along the Lower Merrimack Watershed, especially in the Policy Brook watershed near Salem. Although studies have shown that several sources are probably to blame, the problem becomes paramount when considering the expansion of the highway, which by definition will require greater road salt in the winter months to ensure safe traveling.

This situation creates quite a challenge for protecting water quality by reducing salt use in this region. Elevated chloride levels threaten the health of sensitive fish species and smaller organisms that serve as the primary food source for fish populations. In addition, elevated chloride levels in drinking water supplies can pose a health risk to people in need of restricting their sodium intake.



Governor Benson

Unlike other pollutants, salt cannot be treated or removed from runoff in a treatment pond or swale. Chloride moves easily through the soil and eventually reaches our ground waters or surface waters. To reduce these chloride levels will require the implementation of a strategy to better manage and reduce the use of salt, not only on I-93, but on state and local roads as well as private roads and parking lots.

Over the next year, DES, DOT, and US EPA Region I will be working together to develop a plan to further study chloride levels and relative contributions by various sources in the region and identify needed reductions to restore water quality to meet current standards. These organizations will be looking for innovative ways to reduce salt use themselves as well as conducting an extensive outreach effort for the area towns and communities to help them understand why salt is a threat to water quality and ask for their assistance with solutions for addressing this problem.

Craig R. Benson, Governor

## Mold in your home?

*New brochure helps to address mold issues in the home*

Without question, mold is a source of indoor air pollution and, in large amounts, may cause mild to serious health problems. Mold can also cause structural damage to homes, leading to costly repairs and affecting home resale prices.

"Should you panic? No. Should you be concerned? Yes!" says Rhonda

Martin of the DES Indoor Air Quality section. "Certainly if you have an allergic sensitivity to mold, you want to prevent it from forming and remove immediately any existing mold from your home. But common sense—not expensive testing—is your best guide in addressing mold in the home."



**Mold**, continued on page 3

## Commissioner's Column

### Touring with Councilor Ray Burton

I had the opportunity this past September to embark upon what many consider to be a right-of-passage in state government: touring the North Country with Executive Councilor Raymond Burton. Over the two-day tour, we embarked upon an ambitious schedule and traveled from Littleton to Pittsburg, down to Colebrook and over to Berlin and Gorham.

The tour, my first as Commissioner, included events that illustrated the diversity of the programs, projects and regu-

**Tour**, continued on page 2

## Governor's award winners for pollution prevention announced

The winners of the Governor's Award for Pollution Prevention were announced at the 12th Annual New Hampshire Pollution Prevention Conference held recently in Durham. This year's conference brought together experts in pollution prevention, environmental regulations, and homeland security to help companies adopt successful pollution prevention strategies.

DES Commissioner Michael Nolin and DES Waste Management Division Director Tony Giunta presented the awards to the City of Keene, Millipore Corporation of Jaffrey, and Freudenberg-NOK General Partnership of Bristol.

Three businesses and organizations received honorable mention awards for their pollution prevention efforts, as well: the Town of Amherst, Department of Public Works; Osram Sylvania Products Inc. of Hillsboro; and the Keene Housing Authority.

For detailed information on the award-winning projects, please go to [www.des.state.nh.us/nhppp/GovAward/default.asp?link=winners](http://www.des.state.nh.us/nhppp/GovAward/default.asp?link=winners). ■

**2004  
N.H. Air & Water  
Seminar  
December 14, 2004  
Grappone Conference Ctr.  
Concord, NH  
8 am - 4 pm  
Sponsored by  
DES and BIA  
For information:  
(603) 224-5388 or  
[www.nhbia.org](http://www.nhbia.org)**

## Tour

*continued from page 1*

latory authority of DES. Often people only associate DES with a particular program with which they have had some type of interaction. It is important, however, for the public and municipalities to have a greater understanding of DES's overall responsibilities, which range from ensuring high levels of water quality for water supplies, ecological balance, and recreational benefits, to regulating the emissions of air pollutants, to fostering the proper management of municipal and industrial waste, and more.

Furthermore, the tour presented an opportunity to get an on the ground, hands-on, one-on-one view of many of these projects and programs. I found that every group, whether a municipality, business or organization, expressed enthusiasm about participating in the tour and appreciated the interest that we showed them, and in giving them the chance to discuss the projects or items on their own turf.

Some of the highlights of the tour included:

- Tour of Home Depot construction site, Littleton.
- Tour of Presby Plastics, Whitefield.
- Press Conference at Whitefield Power and Light Co.
- Tour of Stratford Bog Dam reconstruction project.
- Tour of Air Monitoring Station, Pittsburg
- Tour of Murphy Dam, Pittsburg
- Meeting to discuss the public-private partnership agreement to

close the Colebrook landfill.

- Tour of former Chloro-Alkali facility, Berlin.
- Tour of DES Gorham facility.

I want to thank Councilor Burton for his time and interest in our agency. I was pleased to have the opportunity to observe a snapshot of the great



*Touring Presby Plastics' on-site testing ground for its innovative septic system products in Whitefield. Pictured here are Mike Walls, David Presby, Mike Nolin, and Ray Burton.*

work that is being done by the dedicated professionals here at DES. And finally, I wanted to thank all of the staff involved in the various aspects of the tour that helped to make it a tremendous success.

Michael P. Nolin, *Commissioner*

## ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS



*Environmental News* is a bimonthly publication of the N.H. Department of Environmental Services.

Michael P. Nolin **Commissioner**  
Michael J. Walls **Asst. Commissioner**

**Division Directors**  
Anthony Giunta **Waste Management**  
Robert R. Scott **Air Resources**  
Harry T. Stewart **Water**

**Environmental News**  
James Martin **Editor**  
Patricia Gruttemeyer **Assoc. Editor/Layout**  
**Editorial Board**  
Kathleen M. Brockett Paul Currier  
Timothy W. Drew Gretchen R. Hamel  
Rene Pelletier Sharon A. Yergeau

29 Hazen Drive • Concord, NH 03301  
603-271-3503

[www.des.nh.gov](http://www.des.nh.gov)  
[editor@des.state.nh.us](mailto:editor@des.state.nh.us)  
*Printed on recycled paper.*



## Mold

*continued from page 1*

A new brochure to help homeowners with their mold questions, including tips for clean-up and removal, is now available from DES; below are excerpts from the guide.

### What is mold?

Molds are any of several types of fungi and can be found almost anywhere. Particles of mold too small to be seen are present in indoor and outdoor air. Molds can grow on many substances where moisture is present, including wood, paper, carpet, insulation and foods.

In nature, molds help to break down dead materials and can be found growing in soil, on plant matter, and on other organic matter. Molds produce microscopic cells called spores, which spread easily through the air. Mold spores act like seeds, forming new mold growth when they find the right conditions: moisture and nutrients.

Mold should not be permitted to grow and multiply indoors. When this happens, health problems can occur and building materials, goods and furnishings may be damaged.

### What are some of the health effects?

Scientific evidence links mold and other factors related to damp conditions in homes and buildings to asthma symptoms in some people with the chronic disorder, as well as coughing, wheezing, and upper respiratory tract symptoms in otherwise healthy people. People are mainly exposed to mold by breathing spores or other tiny fragments of mold. The types and severity of symptoms depend, in part, on the extent of an individual's exposure, age, and his or her existing sensitivities or allergies.

Although other and more serious problems can occur, people exposed to mold commonly report problems such as: nasal and sinus congestion; cough; wheezing/breathing difficulties; sore throat; skin and eye irritation; and upper respiratory infections.

Some types of mold are more hazardous because they can produce chemical compounds called mycotoxins. They do not, however, always do so. Molds that are able to produce toxins include some common types. In some circumstances, these toxins may cause more serious health problems. Moreover, wet surfaces themselves may cause chemicals and particles to be released from building materials, which also may be the source of health problems. Regardless of whether mold produces toxins, all indoor mold growth is potentially problematic and should be removed promptly.



*A search behind materials such as carpets, wallpaper, and insulation may reveal a serious mold problem.*

### How do I tell if I have a mold problem? Investigate.

The most practical way to find a mold problem is by using your eyes to look for mold growth, and by using your nose to locate the sources of a suspicious odor. If you see mold or if there is an earthy or musty smell, you should assume a mold problem exists. Other clues are signs of excess moisture or the worsening of allergy-like symptoms.

For more information or to request copies of the "Mold in Your Home?" brochure, please contact Rhonda Martin, DES Indoor Air Quality, at (603) 271-3911 or at [rmartin@des.state.nh.us](mailto:rmartin@des.state.nh.us), or [www.des.nh.gov/EOH/pubs.htm](http://www.des.nh.gov/EOH/pubs.htm). ■

## DES participates in nation's largest single-day water education event

One thousand New Hampshire students and teachers gathered on September 24 at Wellington State Park, Bristol, as part of a nationwide effort to learn about the importance of ground water and how to protect it. Held on one day across the country, approximately 100 simultaneous festivals resulted in the largest single-day water education event in the nation. And DES was there.

Filled with interactive activities, the events celebrated the important role of water in our lives, teaching children about the science and history of water, one of our most important natural resources. The national effort is organized by Project WET (Water Education for Teachers), an international, interdisciplinary, water science and education program for formal and non-formal educators of K-12 students, hosted in New Hampshire by DES. ■



*One thousand New Hampshire students and teachers gathered on September 24 at Wellington State Park, Bristol, as part of a nationwide effort to learn about the importance of ground water.*

## Whitefield Power and Light Company to install additional pollution control equipment

### *Event part of two-day environmental tour*

One of the highlights of the recent North Country tour with Executive Councilor Burton was a press conference on a permit approval for the Whitefield Power and Light Company to install new pollution control equipment at the company's power generating plant on Airport Road in Whitefield. The use of new pollution control equipment will result in significant reductions of nitrogen oxide emissions from the wood-fired boiler. DES issued a Temporary Permit (commonly known as a construction permit) to Whitefield Power and Light Company in mid-September allowing the installation and operation of this equipment.

The installation of control equipment at this facility represents a significant investment by Whitefield Power and Light Company, and demonstrates the company's commitment to environmental protection. The company voluntarily requested a permit from DES to install and operate this equipment, which is expected to result in a reduction of at least 125 tons per year of nitrogen oxide (NOx) emissions. NOx emissions are a concern to DES because they contribute to the formation of smog, acid rain, and fine particles in the atmosphere.

The new equipment includes a regenerative selective catalytic reduction system, or RSCR, on the wood-fired boiler. The existing wood-fired boiler burns whole tree wood chips, sawdust, or clean processed wood to produce steam that drives a steam turbine, generating approximately 16 megawatts of electricity for sale. Whitefield Power and Light Company is voluntarily installing the RSCR system to reduce NOx emissions to qualify for renewable energy credits in other New England states. This project will enable the company to remain economically viable burning clean wood as its primary fuel. The result is good for the forest industry, good for the economic well being in the North Country, and good for environmental protection. ■

### **Attention**

**Small Quantity Hazardous Waste Generators!  
Self-Certification Forms & Fees  
Due January 1, 2005  
From SQGs in Cheshire and Hillsborough  
Counties**

**For information on training or to get copies of  
the forms, go to [www.des.state.nh.us/sqg](http://www.des.state.nh.us/sqg) or  
call toll-free, in-state at 1-866-HAZWAST.**



*Commissioner Michael Nolin presents Penny Publishing of Loudon with the Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP) Award. Photo by Carole Soule, Loudon Ledger.*

## DES provides environmental monitoring data on-line

DES has taken another step forward to make environmental data more readily accessible to the public. Environmental monitoring data from select programs is now available on-line at the One-Stop web site, [www.des.nh.gov/OneStop.htm](http://www.des.nh.gov/OneStop.htm), by clicking on "Environmental Monitoring Data."

Currently, the available monitoring (sampling) data is primarily for lakes and rivers. Well data will be included later this year, and additional data are being incorporated as time and resources permit. Available data will not be limited to that collected by DES, or to water quality data. Data from University of New Hampshire monitoring programs, volunteer monitoring groups, as well as other cooperating agencies will be included, as will data on weather, air quality, soil and sediment quality, and other environmental monitoring. The purpose of this database will be to serve as a warehouse for all environmental monitoring data collected in the state. All agencies and groups with New Hampshire environmental monitoring data are encouraged to contact us to include their data in this warehouse.

The database can retrieve data by town, county, station type (i.e., river, lake, well, etc.), lake or river name, watershed, and a host of other options. The requested information is returned in either a text or Microsoft Excel file format, which can easily be converted into graphs and charts.

For more information regarding this database, please contact Deb Soule at [dsoule@des.state.nh.us](mailto:dsoule@des.state.nh.us). ■



## DES leads by example to “spare the air”

Over the past several years, DES has been engaged in an effort to reduce idling of vehicles around the state, especially school buses and trucks. Leading by example, DES recently launched an anti-idling initiative for the operation of all DES cars and trucks. This initiative includes educating employees, posting of “No Idling” signs in appropriate loading areas at DES headquarters, enforcing anti-idling zones, and encouraging these practices at home as well as at work. DES hopes that other state agencies will follow suit and implement similar policies for the operation of their state vehicles.

As part of the initiative, DES employees are being asked to turn engines off if they will be parked for more than 15 seconds. With new engines, anything over about ten seconds of idling uses more fuel than restarting the engine. Also, during morning start-up,



staff are asked to idle vehicles no longer than necessary to bring the engine to proper operating temperature, especially since vehicles warm up faster during on-road driving conditions than when idling.

The health and environmental impacts of diesel and gasoline exhaust emissions are well documented by health experts, researchers and scientists. One way to reduce these emissions and save fuel costs is to eliminate unnecessary vehicle idling whenever possible. By reducing vehicle idling, DES employees are:

- Helping to protect the health of drivers and passengers from the harmful effects of exhaust fumes.
- Reducing smog forming nitrogen oxide emissions, fine particle pollution, volatile organic compounds, toxic air compounds like formaldehyde, and greenhouse gases.
- Reducing fuel consumption and saving money (in some cases up to one gallon of fuel per hour).
- Reducing wear and tear on the engine – saving maintenance costs and increasing the life of the engine!

DES encourages other state agencies, local governments, and businesses to join in this effort by establishing anti-idling policies for their employees. For information on ways to get started, contact Kathy Brockett, Air Resources Division, at (603) 271-1370 or 1-800-498-6868. ■

## Backyard burning of household trash prompts action by state and federal officials

DES Commissioner Michael Nolin recently joined the environmental commissioners of seven other Northeast states and EPA regional administrators in signing a resolution, titled “Don’t Trash Our Air,” calling for regional action to reduce air pollution from open, uncontrolled burning of household trash.

The resolution was developed, with the support of EPA, by air quality and solid waste officials representing the Northeast States for Coordinated Air Use Management (NESCAUM) and the Northeast Waste Management Officials Association (NEWMOA). NESCAUM and NEWMOA are non-profit associations of state environmental agencies in eight Northeast states, including Connecticut, Maine,

Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island and Vermont.

“New Hampshire has taken significant steps to eliminate open burning of residential trash and protect public health from this source of air pollution,” said Commissioner Nolin. “We are pleased to see that the Northeast states and EPA have resolved to work together on this issue through public education, legislation, enforcement, and support of safer solid waste management options.”

Backyard trash burning is extremely inefficient at destroying the materials contained in today’s wastes, and produces a number of highly toxic air pollutants, including dioxin. Dioxin is a class of highly toxic and persistent

chemicals that are frequently associated with various combustion sources of air pollution. Dioxin is released into the air, builds up in soils, sediments and plants, bio-accumulates in animal and fish tissue, and is passed up the food chain to people. Exposure to dioxin can result in human reproductive, developmental, and immune system disorders, and is classified as a *known human carcinogen* by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Toxicology Program. Studies show that a single family burning trash in a backyard burn barrel can release as much of this highly toxic pollutant into the air as a well-controlled municipal waste incinerator serving tens of thousands of households.

The full-text of the resolution can be viewed on the website at [www.newmoa.org/solidwaste/BurningResolution.htm](http://www.newmoa.org/solidwaste/BurningResolution.htm). ■

## DES and FPL Energy sign agreement to restore salt marsh

*Browns River salt marsh in Seabrook/Hampton Falls to be protected*

For the last 200 years, humans have been putting up obstructions to tidal flow into salt marshes and tidal rivers. Roads, railways and berms often cut off or restrict flow to these important wetlands. Browns River salt marsh in Seabrook and Hampton Falls, located adjacent to Seabrook Station, is bisected by a railroad causeway built across the marsh in the 1850s. All tidal flow to the 42-acre marsh passes through a relatively small culvert. The marsh is beginning to show signs of the degradation associated with tidal restrictions.

To restore and protect the 42-acre Browns River salt marsh from future degradation, DES recently signed an agreement with FPL Energy Seabrook Station to move forward with the restoration project. The New Hampshire Coastal Program, which recently became part of DES, is partnering with Seabrook Station, the town of Seabrook, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and N.H. Department of Transportation to restore greater tidal flow to the impacted area. This will be



*Aerial photograph of the Browns River salt marsh in Seabrook/Hampton Falls taken in 2000.*

accomplished by installing a new box culvert, which will increase tidal flow more than fourfold. Final engineering and design for the restoration is underway, and construction should be completed by next summer. ■

## VLAP Program recognized by Volunteer NH!

*Volunteer Champion Award presented November 4*

The DES Volunteer Lake Assessment Program (VLAP) was selected to receive the prestigious Volunteer Champion Award presented by Volunteer NH! The award was presented November 4 at the second annual Spirit of New Hampshire Awards banquet.

VLAP is a cooperative program between DES and lake residents and lake associations to record water quality data of New Hampshire's lakes and ponds. Volunteer monitoring leads to local awareness of land use and human practices that may be detrimental to lake quality and also empowers communities in their decision-making regarding lake management issues. Not only are the volunteer monitors trained by DES to sample the lake itself, they are also trained to survey the surrounding watershed and sample

the streams and rivers that are tributaries to the lake. Sampling frequency is flexible, with most associations choosing to sample monthly throughout the summer (June through August). During the off-season, DES biologists interpret the water quality data and compile the results into an annual report for each lake. Presently, approximately 500 volunteers from 154 lakes and ponds located throughout the state participate in VLAP.

"I am extremely pleased that VLAP has been chosen to receive the Volunteer Champion Award. I think that it is a fitting recognition for all of the hours of work that the hundreds of volunteers donate to the state, and in doing so, allow DES to keep close track of the quality of our state's waterbodies," said Commissioner Michael Nolin.

Volunteer NH! is a non-profit state-

wide organization that promotes and supports volunteerism throughout New Hampshire. The Spirit of New Hampshire Awards event recognizes outstanding contributions to volunteerism in New Hampshire and brings together interested individuals and representatives from business, education, government, faith communities and national service initiatives.

The awards honor outstanding volunteers as well as exemplary supporters of volunteer programs. "Volunteer Service Awards" honor the service contributions by individuals and groups in the categories of youth, adult, senior, group, family, and national service. "Volunteer Champion Awards" are given to entities that provide the ongoing support and structure for volunteers to be successful. ■

# Laconia Brownfields a “success story”

*DES, EPA and Chinburg Builders unveil sign for the redevelopment of the former Allen-Rogers facility in Laconia*

Another Brownfield’s “Success Story” sign was unveiled in early September at an event at the site of the former Allen-Rogers facility in downtown Laconia. DES Commissioner Michael Nolin, EPA Region 1 Administrator Bob Varney, Eric Chinburg of Chinburg Builders Inc., Laconia city officials and a representative from the Governor’s office participated in the event, which celebrated one of the latest Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund projects in New Hampshire. The loan program, administered by DES and funded via EPA, encourages the cleanup of idle or underused contaminated properties to return them to productive use.

Between the early 1860s and late 1990s, the former Allen Rogers site, an approximately 5.6 acre parcel located along the north bank of the Winnepesaukee River in Laconia, was alternately used for the manufacture of rail cars, wooden boats and turned wooden products. Three multi-story brick buildings and one wooden storage building are located on the site. Site soils have been found to contain lead in exceedence of state standards. Asbestos is present and requires abatement before the buildings can be rehabilitated for use.

Laconia Millworks LLC, created by Eric Chinburg of Chinburg Builders, Inc., plans to develop this unused property into approximately 74 residential units and 28,000 square feet of commercial space. Laconia Millworks LLC received a \$500,000 Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan

Fund loan from DES to clean up the soil and abate asbestos. This cleanup loan is expected to leverage approximately \$7 million in construction and other project costs. Work is well underway and when completed, the project will return the property to the tax rolls of the city, provide needed housing and commercial establishments and create jobs from the local labor pool. ■

## November Conferences

### NOV 10 NH Drinking Water Expo

*Workshops, trade show*

Center of New Hampshire  
Manchester, NH

8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Free of charge; CEUs available

Co-sponsored by DES and NH Water Works Assoc.

For information, contact [sjdeldeo@juno.com](mailto:sjdeldeo@juno.com);

(603) 415-3959

### NOV 13 Watershed Conference 2004

N.H. Dept. of Environmental Services  
29 Hazen Drive

Concord, NH

8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Free of charge; pre-registration required

Sponsored by DES and NH Rivers Council

For information, contact (603) 271-8801

[www.des.nh.gov/Rivers/2004Conference](http://www.des.nh.gov/Rivers/2004Conference)

### NOV 20 Auto Recyclers Trade Show & Environmental Conference

Manchester School of Technology  
Manchester, NH

8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Registration with fee required.

Sponsored by Auto & Truck Recyclers Assoc. of  
NH and DES

For information, contact Mary Brown, (603) 798-  
5461;

[www.des.state.nh.us/SW/GreenYards/  
auto\\_recyclers2004.pdf](http://www.des.state.nh.us/SW/GreenYards/auto_recyclers2004.pdf)



Participating in the unveiling of the Brownfields Success Story sign were Eileen Cabanel, Laconia City Manager; Mark Fraser, Laconia City Mayor; Eric Chinburg, Chinburg Builders; Robert Varney, EPA Region I Administrator; Michael Nolin, DES Commissioner; and Steve Lewis, Governor’s Smart Growth Taskforce.



[www.des.nh.gov](http://www.des.nh.gov)



## DES Pollution Prevention Internship Program receives national award

*Winner of the Most Valuable Pollution Prevention (MVP2) Award presented by the National Pollution Prevention Roundtable*

The DES Pollution Prevention Internship Program has received recognition from the National Pollution Prevention Roundtable (NPPR). The Roundtable presented its 8th Annual Most Valuable Pollution Prevention Awards as part of Pollution Prevention (P2) Week at the end of September.

DES worked on a collaborative basis with The University of New Hampshire and EPA Region 1 to create the N.H. Pollution Prevention Internship Program in 1995. Through this program we have been able to combine the efforts of businesses, academia, and government to increase the level of awareness and adaptation of pollution prevention in the state of New Hampshire. Not only do companies gain from reduced waste and cost savings, but students are afforded the ability to learn about new pollution prevention approaches, and the N.H. Pollution Prevention Internship Program gains information about new pollution prevention technical practices that it can share with other companies. To date, nearly 100 students and 50 facilities have benefited from this program. The facilities have not only achieved significant environmental benefits, but have also saved more than \$3 million a year.

"The success of the P2 Internship Program is in part due to the training the students receive prior to their internship assignment," noted Sara Johnson, DES coordinator of the P2 Internship Program. "Trainers are from DES, EPA and New Hampshire businesses, and they cover regulations as well as pollution prevention opportunities. But, more importantly, the trainers cover how to review a manufacturing process to discover where and why the waste is being generated, and how to research ways to reduce or eliminate those wastes. We have found it to be a consistent win-win situation for all concerned."

NPPR is the largest membership organization in the United States devoted solely to pollution prevention. NPPR acts as a window on the P2 community. The mission of the Roundtable is to provide a national forum for promoting the development, implementation, and evaluation of efforts to avoid, eliminate, or reduce pollution at the source, i.e., source reduction instead of traditional end-of-pipe methods. For more information about the Roundtable or the MVP2 Awards and the winners, please visit their website at [www.p2.org/p2week/2004Winners.cfm](http://www.p2.org/p2week/2004Winners.cfm), and for more information about the N.H. Pollution Prevention Program or Internship, please call Sara Johnson at (603) 271-6460. ■

## DES coastal programs under one roof!

As of September 20, all of the DES coastal offices, including subsurface, wetlands, the Coastal Program, oil spill response, and the NH Estuaries Project are now located at:

**50 International Drive, Suite 200  
Portsmouth, NH  
(603) 559-1500**

Staff phone numbers have also changed with the move. Please use the above number to make initial contact; e-mail addresses are unchanged.



## Did you know ...?

To help cut your heating bills this winter, lower the hot water heater's thermostat to the lowest level that meets your hot water needs, typically to 120°F (midway between the "low" and "medium" setting on many units). Each 10-degree reduction will save 3 percent to 5 percent on water heating costs.

Tune up your furnace as well. A well-maintained furnace will burn fuel more efficiently, requiring less fuel to provide the same amount of heat, and producing less air pollution.

Also, by lowering your furnace thermostat to 60°F when you are asleep or away, you can significantly reduce your fuel use. For every degree lower you set your thermostat, you will save about 1 percent on your heating bill. For guaranteed savings, upgrade to an automatic setback or programmable thermostat, which will automatically adjust the temperature for you. ■



PO Box 95  
29 Hazen Drive  
Concord, NH 03302-0095

PRSRT.STD  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Concord, NH  
Permit No. 1478